

LAW DIVIDES FAMILY
OF DR. G. M. PARKER

Father Gets Custody of His
Elder Children, Mother
Takes the Younger.

CALLS WIFE INTEMPERATE

Defendant Denies to Referee
She Is Addicted to Drink or
That She Beat Her
Little Ones Cruelly.

The family of Dr. George M. Parker, a specialist in mental and nervous diseases and chief of that department at St. Vincent's Hospital, is to be divided by a court order. The trouble between the physician and his wife, Mrs. Nancy C. Parker, was caused, the referee's report states, by her intemperate habits, which caused Dr. Parker to take their three children to the home of his mother. The wife then brought habeas corpus proceedings. The case was heard by Wilbur Larremore, as referee, and in his report filed in the Supreme Court yesterday he recommends that the father have the custody of two of the children and the mother the custody of the youngest.

Miss Mary Clara Parker, sister of the doctor, testified at the hearing before the referee that Mrs. Parker had treated her children cruelly. She said the mother beat them with a leash that had a buckle on the end and left welts on their legs; also that she had whipped them with a cane. The three children are Nancy, nine years old; John C., seven, and Kathleen, three years old.

In her application for a writ of habeas corpus Mrs. Parker complained that Dr. Parker took the children out on May 30 and did not bring them back. She learned he left them at the home of his mother, and Mrs. Parker said she had since been unable to get them or to communicate with her husband. Dr. Parker is living at No. 41 West 52d street, and the address of Mrs. Parker is given in the papers as No. 78 East 83d street. Mrs. Parker said the doctor kept the children from her because of his "perverseness, spitefulness and his unwillingness to permit her to have control of the two girls and the boy." Mrs. Parker went to the home of her mother-in-law to get them, and there was a quarrel, but her demand availed her nothing.

Mrs. Parker said her husband's mother was seventy-five years old and not competent to care for the children. Kathleen, she said, wakes in the night and needs her mother to rock her to sleep.

The referee said in his report that the main question involved in the proceeding was Mrs. Parker's addiction to liquor. He said that all who testified agreed that "when she was not under the influence of alcohol she is a woman of education and refined tastes and, if not quick tempered kindly in disposition." The referee further found that the "acts of violence and general course of misconduct," of which she was guilty, were due to her unfortunate addiction to drink. The evidence showed there was no doubt about the unfitness of the mother to have the custody of the children, said Mr. Larremore in his report.

Dr. M. S. Gregory, an expert on nervous and mental diseases, testified Mrs. Parker was suffering from chronic alcoholism, and suggested that she be sent to a sanatorium. He said she showed an "alcohol tongue," one coated down the middle. Dr. Parker, although an interested party in the proceeding, also gave expert testimony. He told of having to overpower his wife in self-defense on several occasions.

Mrs. Parker, mother of the doctor, and his sister told of the cruelties they said Mrs. Parker had practised on her children. Miss Parker was asked if she believed in the adage, "Spare the rod and spoil the child." She said it was not always necessary to spare the rod and that children needed a whipping occasionally, but that children did not need to be beaten.

"It all depends on the children, does it not?" was asked of Miss Parker, to which she replied that it depended a great deal on the mother.

Mrs. Parker denied on the stand before the referee that she was addicted to drink. She admitted she sometimes had hit her children with a strap, but never used the end with the buckle on it. "I wouldn't use a buckle on a dog," she said. Whatever bruises the children had, the mother added, were caused by their falling down.

Mrs. Parker said she did not drink gin, brandy or rum, but sometimes drank beer. She could not tell just how much beer she drank. "Is it because you drink so many bottles?" she was asked. Mrs. Parker answered: "No, but some days I drink none at all."

Mrs. Parker said in answer to another question that she was never so intoxicated that "I couldn't get along." She said that if she ever was she would feel sorry for Dr. Parker and his family. She said the cane which it was said she had used on her children was a thin, weak stick, such as is sold at country fairs, with a pennant attached to it. Two friends of Mrs. Parker testified that they never had seen her under the influence of liquor.

The wife said that in the eleven years of her married life Dr. Parker took her to the theatre only five times. She wanted to see "The Playboy of the Western World" when the Irish players were here, she said, but somehow her husband never seemed able to take her.

Justice Dugro confirmed the report of Mr. Larremore yesterday. The court ordered that Mrs. Parker was to see her two older children every Wednesday after school and until sundown, but not at the home of her husband's mother or sister, and that Dr. Parker was to have the custody of Kathleen every Monday and Thursday for five hours and on every alternate Sunday.

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THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL EVENTS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED
EXPRESSLY FOR TO-MORROW (MONDAY):

A Highly Important Sale of Over 1,000 Lounging
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at very large concessions from usual prices.

Lounging Robes of blanket or elderdown, in a variety of desirable colors	at \$3.90	Paris-made Negligees of albatross, with hand-embroidered collars, at	\$11.50
Japanese Quilted Silk Robes, hand-embroidered	at \$7.50	Boudoir Gowns of meteor and lace, with caps to match	\$21.00
House Dresses of crepe de Chine, hand-embroidered	at \$17.50	Tea Gowns of crepe de Chine, trimmed with marabout, at \$22.00	

Also a limited number of IMPORTED JAPANESE DRESSING JACKETS
in a variety of colorings, at the special price of \$3.25

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Petticoats of Wool Jersey, with messaline flounce	at \$3.25
Petticoats of Silk Jersey, with messaline flounce, colored or black, at	3.75
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A Sale of 5,000 yards of Choice Black Dress Satins
(54 inches wide),
Regularly \$4.50 & 5.50 per yard at \$2.85

IN THE LEATHER GOODS DEPARTMENT

A Sale of Velvet Saddle Purses

Actual values \$5.00 to 7.00 at \$2.90

The Colored Dress Goods Department

in order to effect an immediate clearance, has made considerable reductions in the prices of several of this season's materials, comprising velour de laine, peau de souris, silk-and-wool novelties and plain and fancy cheviots in a variety of shades. These will be placed on sale to-morrow (Monday).

Also a large selection of SKIRT AND DRESS LENGTHS
at very special prices.

REMARKABLE REDUCTIONS have been made in the prices of
Misses', Girls' and Children's Suits,
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to close out the remainder of this season's styles. Tailor-made Suits, Every-day Dresses, Evening Dresses and Wraps, and Practical Coats for street wear, all of which are modeled in the fashionable fabrics,

ARE BEING OFFERED AT VERY MUCH LESS THAN
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The DEPARTMENT FOR DECORATIVE LACES is making an unusually
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Decorative Lace Pieces

especially adapted for presentation as holiday gifts, at the following
remarkably low prices:

Lace Centerpieces, usually \$3.75 to 16.00	\$2.00, 2.75, 3.75 to 9.75	Lace Pillow Slips at \$3.75, 4.50 to 6.75	at \$6.75, 9.00 to 12.50
		Usually \$5.75 to 11.00	Usually \$9.00 to 17.00

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FIFTH AVENUE Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth Streets NEW YORK

ARE showing, in their various departments, unusually extensive assortments of attractive articles suitable for holiday souvenirs for men and women. Among them the following will commend themselves as especially desirable:

Fur Sets	Dressing Cases	Cigarette Cases
Silk Hosiery	Watch Bracelets	Humidors
Lace Handkerchiefs	Corsage Bouquets	Desk Fittings
Marvex Gloves	Lounging Robes	Stationery
Imported Negligees	Manicure Sets	Photograph Frames
Boudoir Caps	Toilet Sets	Card Cases
Lingerie Pillows	Smoking Jackets	Gold Sleeve Links
Nightrobe Cases	Bathrobes	Pearl Studs
Decorative Linens	Sweaters	Silk Dress Scarfs
Fans, Opera Glasses	Neckwear	Thermos Bottles
Art Objects	Motor Robes	Eastman Kodaks
Gold Lorgnettes	Umbrellas	Brush Sets
Hand Bags	Walking Sticks	Library Sets

To facilitate holiday shopping, patrons of the store will, if desired, be provided with special salespeople, who will accompany them to the various departments.

B. Altman & Co.

will place on Special Sale to-morrow (Monday) a limited number of

FUR GARMENTS for Men and Women
Also FUR MUFFS AND NECKPIECES

At unusually low prices, as follows:

MEN'S FUR-LINED OVERCOATS

with collars of seal or Persian lamb at \$65.00

WOMEN'S FUR COATS

Karakul Coats, 52 inches long	at \$65.00
Karakul Coats, 54 inches long (cut-away model) with collars of contrasting fur	at \$110.00
Hudson Seal Coats, 52 inches long	at 125.00
Seal-dyed Coney Coats, 54 inches long	at 68.00
Seal-dyed Coney Coats, long and short models	at 95.00
Russian Pony Coats, 54 inches long	at 58.00

Karakul . Muffs, \$8.00 & 22.50	Mink . . . Muffs, \$68.00
Neckpieces, 8.00 & 22.50	Neckpieces, 48.00
Black Fox Muffs, \$14.50 & 32.00	Moleskin . . Muffs, \$21.00
Neckpieces, 14.00 & 25.00	Neckpieces, 8.00
Pointed Fox Muffs, \$25.00 & 40.00	Black Wolf Muffs, \$14.00 & 18.00
Neckpieces, 25.00 & 35.00	Neckpieces, 10.00 & 16.50
Black Lynx . Muffs, \$58.00	Persian Paw Sets . . \$7.00
Neckpieces, 48.00	

RICH FUR GARMENTS

of Mink, Broadtail, Moleskin, etc., at extraordinary reductions in prices, commencing Monday, Dec. 16th

Fur-lined Coats, formerly \$425.00	at \$275.00
Persian Lamb Coats, formerly \$425.00	at 300.00
Hudson Seal Coats, formerly \$575.00 & 850.00	at \$375.00 & 550.00
Moleskin Coats, formerly \$750.00	at 400.00
Broadtail Persian Coats, formerly \$675.00 & 1,200.00, at 475 & 800.00	
Karakul Coats, formerly \$750.00	at 500.00
Karakul Coats, formerly \$1,200.00	at 775.00
Broadtail Coats, formerly \$2,200.00	at 1,000.00
Mink Coats, formerly \$2,500.00	at 1,500.00

On TUESDAY, Dec. 17th, a special offering will be made of

WOMEN'S BLOUSES

modeled in chiffon, crepe de Chine and brocade and intended for wear with smart tailor-made suits.

Crepe de Chine Blouses	at \$5.00
Brocade Blouses.	at \$5.00, 7.50 & 11.50
Blouses of Ecru Lace, satin collar and vestee, trimmed with rhinestone buttons	at \$10.00